

Response Paper 5: Ethnography and “Othering”

RP 5 Questions:

Please answer ALL of the following questions to the best of your ability in a succinct essay. You should make ample use of the assigned readings in your response. See the General Instructions below for the standard guidelines for response papers.

- Part a.** What kinds of techniques do the ancient authors use to “other” the subjects of their ethnographic works? Are there particular kinds of information that they use to describe or characterize these foreign cultures?
- Part b.** Please find a news article (either in print or online) covering a current event that demonstrates similar techniques of “othering” that we have found in these ancient texts. **Attach a copy of the first page of the article** and describe in your essay how this article appears to follow ancient ethnographic practices and how these techniques alter the audience’s interpretation of the event described in the article. (Be sure to give the proper citation of the article)

General Instructions:

For all the response papers you write this semester, follow these instructions:

- Formatting expectations: 1” margins on all sides, text double-spaced and 12 pt Times or Times New Roman font.
- Length: 1-2 pages; however, I will grade your papers based on their quality, not on the quantity of your words. The “1-2 pages” guideline is meant to give you an idea of the reasonable amount of space that I think should allow you to address these questions.
- You should be succinct, but be sure to answer the questions. You do NOT need to summarize the texts we are reading (remember that I am the audience for these papers), so focus your attention on the questions.
- You absolutely *need* to make use of the texts to answer these questions effectively. Argue a point from the texts; refer to events, characters, words, etc., but do NOT just quote extended passages. I want to see *your* words, not our translators’ words. I do not care about citation techniques, especially since you will not be quoting the texts extensively.
- Unless noted, the response papers are DUE on THURSDAY of the week assigned at the BEGINNING OF CLASS. They are considered late if I receive them after 11:01 AM.